

EXERCISE P3-4 ♦ The semicolon: Guided review

Edit the following paragraphs to correct problems with the use of semicolons. The numbers in the margin refer to relevant rules in sections P3-a to P3-c of *A Writer's Reference*, Seventh Edition. The first revision has been done for you.

Every runner dreams of winning both individual and relay medals at the Olympics/; in 1972, Cheryl Toussaint was no exception. When she did not qualify P3-a
for the individual 800-meter finals; she pinned her hopes on the relay race. Her P3-c
teammates on the American team were ready: Mabel Ferguson, Madeline Jackson, and
Kathy Hammond. The relay was Cheryl's last chance to win a medal, unfortunately, it P3-a
seemed that everything was against her.

Cheryl began the third leg of the qualifying heat with runners ahead of her.
Then a runner in front of her fell. As Cheryl dashed around her, another runner
stepped on the heel of Cheryl's left shoe, so Cheryl was running with her shoe half on
and half off. She needed to stop and pull the shoe on, but she knew two things: She
would lose valuable time, and this was her team's last chance to qualify for the finals.
She kept running, very soon the shoe flew up in the air. Cheryl wondered whether P3-a
the shoe would hit anyone, whether TV viewers could see her bare foot, and whether
people in the stands had noticed. But she ran on, passing the other runners. Her team
qualified for the finals that day, and in the finals, Cheryl and her teammates won
silver medals.

Cheryl remembered her very first run in Brooklyn, in which she hadn't even
known how to start, her first "real" race, in which she'd crawled to the finish line, and P3-b
the Olympic 800-meter individual run in which she'd failed to qualify. She could laugh
about all those memories now, for she and her teammates were Olympic medalists.

Back home, Cheryl kept to her plans: graduating from college (with a B+
average), getting a job in the Federal Reserve Bank's management training program,
and training for the next Olympics. She knew that nothing would ever mean as much
to her again as track, the Atoms, and Coach Thompson had meant her success was P3-a
also theirs.